

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 AND
STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW
Attorney Docket No.: Q54622
U.S. Application No.: 09/323,135**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A circuit switch comprising:

a coupler accessing signaling channels to transmit signaling messages;

an interpreter producing a signaling configuration upon receiving an order to send a signaling message, wherein a type of signaling channel is selected from the signaling channels accessible to the coupler and the signaling configuration produced depends on the selected type of signaling channel; and

a receiver for adding a receive flag to a received signaling message,

wherein the order is a predetermined constant character string; and

wherein the receive flag is an internal flag of the switch and is not transmitted with the signaling message from the switch.

2. (previously presented): The switch according to claim 1, wherein the coupler further comprises:

a detector recognizing whether the received signaling message is addressed to the switch based on a destination of the received signaling message;

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a processor processing the signaling message when the switch is the destination for the signaling message; and

a translator replacing the receive flag with the predetermined character string when the switch is not the destination for the signaling message.

3. (currently amended): A method of sending a signaling message by a circuit switch, the method comprising:

adding to said signaling message a predetermined send order for said signaling message, said adding further comprises the switch receiving the signaling message in a receiving exchange and adding a receive flag to the signaling message;

interpreting said send order in an interpreter of the switch to produce a signaling configuration of said switch, the signaling configuration produced depends on a selected type of signaling channel; and

outputting, from the circuit switch, the signaling message with the added predetermined send order and in the produced signaling configuration,

wherein the type of signaling channel is selected from the signaling channels available to the switch, and

wherein the receive flag is a specified constant and the predetermined send order is a specified constant character string

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wherein the receive flag is an internal flag of the switch and is not transmitted with the signaling message from the switch.

4. (previously presented): The method according to claim 3, wherein, to add the predetermined character string to the signaling message:

the destination of said signaling message is tested; and

if a destination of the signaling message is different from said receiving exchange, the flag is replaced by said predetermined character string.

5. (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein said interpreter is configured to process at least one of: an IP protocol, a frame relay protocol, an ATM protocol, a switched X25 protocol, a generic modem protocol and a switched B channel protocol.

6. (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein said interpreter is one of (a) a microprocessor associated with a program and (b) a working session in a processor running said switch.

7. (previously presented): The switch of claim 1, wherein said interpreter comprises a circuit configured to process at least one of: an IP protocol, a frame relay protocol, an ATM protocol, a switched X25 protocol, a generic modem protocol and a switched B channel protocol.

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8. (previously presented): The switch of claim 1, wherein said interpreter comprises one of (a) a microprocessor associated with a program and (b) a working session in a processor running said switch.

9. (currently amended): A circuit switch comprising:

a coupler accessing signaling channels to transmit signaling messages;

an interpreter producing a signaling configuration upon receiving an order to send a signaling message, the signaling configuration produced depends on a type of the signaling channels accessible to the coupler; and

a receiver for adding a receive flag for internal use only to a received signaling message,

wherein the order is a predetermined constant character string,

wherein the coupler comprises:

a detector recognizing whether the received signaling message is addressed to the switch,

a processor processing the signaling message when the switch is a destination for the signaling message, and

a translator replacing the receive flag with the predetermined character string when the switch is not the destination for the signaling message, and

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wherein the coupler has a plurality of interfaces, wherein each of said interfaces provides access to one of said channels and wherein when a plurality of signaling channels are available to transmit said signaling message, a next available signaling channel is selected in a chronological order and the signaling message is configured to produce the signaling configuration for the next available signaling channel.

10. (previously presented): The switch according to claim 9, wherein the predetermined constant character string remains unchanged regardless of a type of the available signaling channels.

11. (previously presented): The switch of claim 2, wherein when the signaling message is received by the switch, the receiver adds a receive flag to the signaling message and the detector checks the signaling message for the receive flag to determine whether the switch is a designated destination for the signaling message.

12. (previously presented): The switch of claim 2, wherein, when the detector recognizes that the received signaling message is not addressed to the switch based on the destination, the detector forwards the received signaling message to the translator, and wherein, when the translator receives the signaling message from the detector, the translator replaces the

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receive flag with the predetermined constant character string regardless of the destination for the signaling message.

13. (previously presented): The switch according to claim 12, wherein when the switch is not the destination, the translator replaces the receive flag with the predetermined constant character string regardless of the signaling configuration of said signaling message.

14. (previously presented): The method according to claim 3, wherein, when the switch adds the send order to the signaling message, the switch selects the type of signaling channel from the signaling channels available at the switch for transmitting the signaling message, and the interpreter of the switch produces the signaling configuration for the signaling message based on the selected type of signaling channel.

15. (currently amended): A circuit switch comprising:
a coupler accessing signaling channels of different types to transmit signaling messages;
an interpreter producing a signaling configuration upon receiving an order to send a signaling message, wherein the signaling configuration produced for the signaling message depends on a selected type of signaling channel, and wherein the type of signaling channel is selected from different types of the signaling channels available at the coupler to transmit signaling messages; and

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a receiver for adding a receive flag for internal use only to a received signaling message,
wherein the order is a predetermined constant character string, and
wherein the selection of the type of signaling channel for producing the signaling
configuration is based on a predetermined criteria.

16. (previously presented): The switch according to claim 15, wherein the coupler has a plurality of interfaces, wherein each of said interfaces provides access to one of said channels, and wherein when a plurality of signaling channels are available to transmit said signaling message, an available signaling channel is selected based on the predetermined criteria and the signaling message is configured to produce the signaling configuration for the available signaling channel.

17. (currently amended): A computer readable medium storing instructions, said instructions comprising:

accessing signaling channels by a coupler to transmit signaling messages;
producing a signaling configuration upon receiving an order to send a signaling message,
wherein a type of signaling channel is selected from the signaling channels accessible to the coupler and the signaling configuration produced depends on the selected type of signaling channel;
adding a receive flag to a received signaling message; and

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outputting the signaling message with the produced signaling configuration,

wherein the order is a predetermined constant character string; and

wherein the receive flag is an internal flag of the switch and is not transmitted with the

signaling message from the switch.

18. (currently amended): A computer readable medium storing instructions, said instructions comprising:

adding to a signaling message a predetermined send order for said signaling message, said adding further comprises a switch receiving the signaling message in a receiving exchange and adding a receive flag to the signaling message;

interpreting said send order in an interpreter of the switch to produce a signaling configuration of said switch, the signaling configuration produced depends on a selected type of signaling channel; and

outputting, from the circuit switch, the signaling message with the added predetermined send order and in the produced signaling configuration,

wherein the type of signaling channel is selected from the signaling channels available to the switch, and

wherein the receive flag is a specified constant and the predetermined send order is a specified constant character string; and

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wherein the receive flag is an internal flag of the switch and is not transmitted with the signaling message from the switch.

19. (currently amended): A computer readable medium storing instructions, said instructions comprising:

accessing signaling channels by a coupler to transmit signaling messages;

producing a signaling configuration upon receiving an order to send a signaling message, the signaling configuration produced depends on a type of the signaling channels accessible to the coupler; and

adding a receive flag to a received signaling message,

wherein the order is a predetermined constant character string,

wherein said accessing of the signaling channels comprises:

recognizing whether the received signaling message is addressed to a switch,

processing the signaling message when the switch is a destination for the signaling message, and

replacing the receive flag with the predetermined character string when the switch is not the destination for the signaling message; and

wherein the receive flag is an internal flag of the switch and is not transmitted with the signaling message from the switch.

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20. (previously presented): The instructions according to claim 19, wherein the coupler comprises a plurality of interfaces, wherein each of said interfaces provides access to one of said channels, and wherein, when the plurality of signaling channels are available to transmit said signaling message, a next available signaling channel is selected in a chronological order and the signaling message is configured to produce the signaling configuration for the next available signaling channel.

21. (previously presented): The instructions according to claim 17, wherein the selection of the type of signaling channel for producing the signaling configuration is based on a predetermined criteria.

22. (previously presented): The switch according to claim 1, wherein the receive flag is replaced when the switch is not the destination of the signaling message.

23. (previously presented): The switch according to claim 1, wherein the switch only internally uses the receive flag of the received signaling message.

24. (canceled).

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25. (previously presented): The switch according to claim 1, wherein the receive flag is an instruction instructing a processor of the switch to process the signaling message.

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REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 1-25 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends 1, 3, 9, 15, 17, 18, and 19 and cancels claim 24. No new matter is added.

Statement of the Substance of Interview

The following remarks summarize the telephonic interview conducted on August 22, 2007. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courteous telephonic interview conducted on August 22, 2007. The telephonic interview was conducted on August 22, 2007 between Examiner Michael Moore of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and Applicant's representative, Anand B. Ramakrishnan (overseen by Nataliya Dvorson).

Applicant maintained the position that claim 1 was patentable over Dunn as recited in the previous amendment, however, an agreement could not be reached. The Examiner further indicated that claims 23 and 24 overcome the rejection of record.

Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's reasons for maintained rejections. However, to expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, Applicant amends the independent claims to include the features of claim 24. The Examiner indicated that this Amendment will be entered without requiring a Request for Continued Examination since claim 24 was previously considered by the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph because the Examiner alleges that there is no adequate support for "computer readable medium storing instructions" (Office Action, page 2). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

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Applicant respectfully submits that an exemplary, non-limiting embodiment of the present invention discloses various transmission protocols (*see* page 4, lines 28 to 37 of the specification). The exemplary embodiment further discloses that accessing a signaling channel and producing a signaling configuration (*see* page 5, line 32 to page 6, line 33). Clearly then, an exemplary embodiment discloses instructions for accessing and producing a signaling configuration. An exemplary embodiment of the present invention, further discloses an interpreter module 14, which is capable of running a program in Fig 2 (*see* page 5, lines 1 to 18). Instructions (such as accessing and producing signaling configuration) must be stored on some form of a computer readable medium in order for the instructions to be implemented by the interpreter module 14 and other elements in the exemplary embodiment. That is, if the instructions are not stored on some form of a computer readable medium *e.g.*, cache, RAM, etc., the interpreter 14 and other elements would not be able to execute these instructions. In short, Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art in light of the specification would readily understand that the instructions are stored on a computer readable medium.

Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to remove the rejection of claim 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dunn et al. (US 6,324,280; hereinafter “Dunn”). Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejection at least in view of the following exemplary comments.

Claim 1 recites that “the receive flag is an internal flag of the switch and is not transmitted with the signaling message from the switch.” The Examiner agreed that claim 1, as now amended, overcomes the rejection of record. That is, Dunn does not disclose or suggest a receive flag that is an internal flag of the switch and is not transmitted with the signaling message from the switch.

Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the prior art of record. Claims 2, 7, 8, 11-13, 22, 23, and 25 depend from claim 1 and are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

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Independent claims 3, 9, 15, 17, 18, and 19 recite analogous limitations as claim 1 and are patentable at least for at least analogous exemplary reasons. Claims 20 and 21 depend from these claims and are patentable at least because of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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